

1 What is claimed is:

2
3 1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

4 a) a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,
5 or SEQ ID NO:3;

6 b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino
7 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

8 c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a fragment of a polypeptide
9 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at
10 least 285 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

11 d) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a naturally occurring allelic variant of
12 a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the nucleic
13 acid molecule hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, 3, or a
14 complement thereof, under stringent conditions.

15
16 2. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, which is selected from the
17 group consisting of:

18 a) a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID
19 NO:3; and

20 b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino
21 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

22
23 3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising vector nucleic acid
24 sequences.

25
26 4. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising nucleic acid
27 sequences encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

28
29 5. A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

30
31 6. The host cell of claim 5 which is a mammalian host cell.

- 1 7. A non-human mammalian host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of
2 claim 1.
3
- 4 8. An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
5 a) a polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a
6 nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO:3, or a complement thereof.
7 b) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino
8 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid
9 molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID
10 NO:3, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions; and
11 c) a fragment of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID
12 NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 285 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID
13 NO:2.
14
- 15 9. The isolated polypeptide of claim 8 comprising the amino acid sequence of
16 SEQ ID NO:2.
17
- 18 10. The polypeptide of claim 8 further comprising heterologous amino acid
19 sequences.
20
- 21 11. An antibody which selectively binds to a polypeptide of claim 8.
22
- 23 12. A method for producing a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
24 a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
25 b) a polypeptide comprising a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID
26 NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 285 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID
27 NO:2; and
28 c) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino
29 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid
30 molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID
31 NO:3, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions;
32 comprising culturing the host cell of claim 5 under conditions in which the nucleic
33 acid molecule is expressed.

1
2 13. A method for detecting the presence of a polypeptide of claim 8 in a sample,
3 comprising:

- 4 a) contacting the sample with a compound which selectively binds to a
5 polypeptide of claim 8; and
6 b) determining whether the compound binds to the polypeptide in the sample.
7

8 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the compound which binds to the
9 polypeptide is an antibody.
10

11 15. A kit comprising a compound which selectively binds to a polypeptide of
12 claim 8 and instructions for use.
13

14 16. A method for detecting the presence of a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 in
15 a sample, comprising the steps of:

- 16 a) contacting the sample with a nucleic acid probe or primer which selectively
17 hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecule; and
18 b) determining whether the nucleic acid probe or primer binds to a nucleic acid
19 molecule in the sample.
20

21 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the sample comprises mRNA molecules
22 and is contacted with a nucleic acid probe.
23

24 18. A kit comprising a compound which selectively hybridizes to a nucleic acid
25 molecule of claim 1 and instructions for use.
26

27 19. A method for identifying a compound which binds to a polypeptide of claim
28 8 comprising the steps of:

- 29 a) contacting a polypeptide, or a cell expressing a polypeptide of claim 8 with a
30 test compound; and
31 b) determining whether the polypeptide binds to the test compound.
32

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the binding of the test compound to the polypeptide is detected by a method selected from the group consisting of:

- a) detection of binding by direct detecting of test compound/polypeptide binding;
- b) detection of binding using a competition binding assay;
- c) detection of binding using an assay for 33945-mediated signal transduction.

21. A method for modulating the activity of a polypeptide of claim 8 comprising contacting a polypeptide or a cell expressing a polypeptide of claim 8 with a compound which binds to the polypeptide in a sufficient concentration to modulate the activity of the polypeptide.

22. A method for identifying a compound which modulates the activity of a polypeptide of claim 8, comprising:

- a) contacting a polypeptide of claim 8 with a test compound; and
- b) determining the effect of the test compound on the activity of the polypeptide to thereby identify a compound which modulates the activity of the polypeptide.

23. A composition for treating atherosclerosis or endothelial cell disorders in a subject, comprising a compound which modulates the expression or activity of a 33945 nucleic acid molecule or polypeptide.

24. A method for treating atherosclerosis or endothelial cell disorders in a subject, comprising administering a compound which modulates the expression or activity of a 33945 nucleic acid molecule or polypeptide.